

## **1999 Governor's Awards for Excellence in Pollution Prevention Recipients**

On September 22, 1999, Joyce Martin, Governor Frank O'Bannon's Executive Assistant for Environment and Energy/Deputy Counsel and IDEM Commissioner Lori Kaplan recognized eight companies with 1999 Pollution Prevention awards. The awards were presented at the Second Indiana Pollution Prevention Conference and Trade Show at Valle Vista Conference Center in Greenwood, Indiana. Award winners are selected by a review committee comprised of representatives from government, academia, industry and environmental groups. IDEM conducts site visits for all finalists.

### **1999 Award Recipients**

#### **General Seating of America**

Frankfort, Clinton County

Contact: Dean Hill (765) 659-4781

General Seating is being awarded in the [Environmental Management Systems](#) category. By implementing an environmental management system and becoming ISO 14001 certified, General Seating is focusing its efforts on reducing its impact on the environment. The award-winning project involves eliminating a [gluing process](#) from one of its seat manufacturing lines. By changing to a snap/buckle system, General Seating was able to reduce hazardous air pollutant, volatile organic compound and particulate matter emissions by over 90% compared to previous emissions levels.

#### **Evansville Vanderburgh School Corporation and Veazey, Parrott & Shoulders**

Evansville, Vanderburgh County

Contact: Thomas Durkin (812) 423-7729

This is the first year we have given a pollution prevention award in the Energy category. Evansville Vanderburgh School Corporation installed new boilers and heating, ventilation and air conditioning equipment in twenty buildings, greatly reducing energy consumption. Evansville schools now use less energy for heating and air conditioning than it previously used for heating alone. In addition to HVAC improvements, the school corporation showed commitment to the environment by replacing old windows and doors to further improve energy utilization. One of the major factors in the energy savings is the 2-pipe system designed by Thomas Durkin of Veazey, Parrott & Shoulders. Most building designs rely on a 4-pipe system. The 2-pipe system saves construction dollars and uses only 30% of the energy of a conventional 4-pipe system. By reducing energy consumption, over 4000 tons of CO<sub>2</sub> and over 6 tons of nitrogen oxides emissions have been eliminated.

### **Certified Metal Finishers**

Muncie, Delaware County

Contact: Dennis Oakes (765) 286-5800

Certified Metal Finishers developed a water-based, low-VOC carrier for solids in a Teflon-coating system. Previously, the carrier contained methyl ethyl ketone, methyl isobutyl ketone and toluene. Certified spent five years in research and development for this new compound. Since it is used in the manufacturing of safety belts for automobiles, reliability of the new process was very important. The new compound performs as well as the old chemicals and is safer for employees of Certified Metal Finishers. The company encourages its customers to switch to the new process by offering them a lower price for products that use the new system; if the customer wants the old system used on its products, it must pay a premium. This economic incentive has led to near-complete adoption of the new process by Certified's customers. This project has resulted in a 12 ton reduction in VOC emissions from this facility.

### **General Electric Plastics**

Mt. Vernon, Posey County

Contact: Greg Hemmer (812) 831-4647

GE Plastics is one of the largest producers of plastic resins in the world. The award-winning pollution prevention project involves the production of LEXAN® Polycarbonate, one of GE's best-known products. By implementing a comprehensive solvent usage reduction program, GE reduced its methylene chloride emissions by 70%, approx. 400 tons, using 1996 as the base year.

These reductions were accomplished while production increased. By dedicating staff and resources, GE management has shown great commitment to this program. Keys to success fall into two categories - process technical quality and personnel awareness. Examples of process technical quality are leak tight heat exchangers, elimination of piping fluid hammers and the application of an operational philosophy that promotes stability over maximum achievable rate. Examples of personnel awareness are an Employee Involvement Team, a technician-driven leak tagging program and an aggressive alarm response program. Attention to the "little things" was instrumental in making this impressive improvement a reality. GE Plastics is taking a holistic approach to improving the environment.

### **Madison Chemical Co., Inc.**

Madison, Jefferson County

Contact: Sam George (812) 273-6000

Madison Chemical is receiving its third Governor's Award for Excellence in Pollution Prevention. The company is receiving its award this year in the education and outreach category. Madison Chemical is working with its customers to eliminate hazardous waste streams by converting to less harmful chemicals. The project being awarded involves the elimination of oxalic acid and a zinc/nickel solution. Madison Chemical worked with Rotary Lift, also being honored today, to implement this project. The chemicals and processes used are fully transferable and Madison pledges to work with IDEM and others to spread the pollution prevention message.

### **Rotary Lift Company**

Madison, Jefferson County

Contact: Dave Adams (812) 265-9428

Rotary Lift Company is the world leader in the production of hydraulic lifts used by vehicle maintenance shops. The company implemented a new process for rustproofing metal parts. It converted from chemicals that contain copper, selenium, fluorides and amines to **chemicals that are less toxic** and produce no hazardous waste streams. The new process is also better at preventing rust and has decreased production time. The project saved the company \$ 70,000 in the first year of implementation. Rotary Lift's efforts demonstrate that pollution prevention and economic growth can go hand in hand.

### **Utilimaster Corporation**

Wakarusa, Elkhart County

Contact: Dan Murray (219) 862-3394

Utilimaster Corporation is our nation's largest manufacturer of walk-in vans and a leading manufacturer of truck bodies. The company's award-winning pollution prevention project involves reducing its discharge of phosphorus by 93% from its vehicle wash/painting process. The new system eliminated a phosphorus problem for the Town of Wakarusa's wastewater treatment plant. The town was considering spending over \$100,000 initially and \$150,000 annually to deal with the phosphorus inflow. The new wash process also reduces costs for Utilimaster - in 1998, the company saved \$200,000. The new wash process is integral to the coatings that Utilimaster is using and has resulted in VOC emissions reductions - a good example of a P2 project that improves the environment on several fronts.

## **Honorable Mentions**

### **Ingersoll-Rand Corporation, Exit Device Division**

Indianapolis, Marion County

The implementation of Powder Paint Operation has allowed the Exit Device Division to eliminate 80 – 90% of its solvent-based paint operations.

### **Indianapolis Power and Light Company**

Indianapolis, Marion County

Converted coal fired boilers to utilize coke oven gas and reduced dust emissions by approximately 50%.

If you would like more information about this program, contact Bobbi Steiff at (800) 988-7901, ext. 35554 or (317) 233-5554.